

Tammy Heinrichs

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PLANNING COMMISSION

AGENDA ITEM: ~~7~~

DATE: ~~1/14/16~~

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These are some of the medications ~~that have been~~ prescribed to my daughter over the past 13 years.

These have not worked. Some of these medications take up to 3 weeks to see any results.

That is much longer than your insurance will let you stay at a residential care facility.

I know — we fought with Blue Cross ~~and~~ even when the Psychiatrists insisted she needed to stay. These were the Psychiatrists at the residential care facility in Reno, Nevada. This facility is a locked facility where people can not come and go. Facilities in California are not locked. When a patient feels better they can leave. If a patient refuses medication they can leave. The time a patient needs is much longer than an insurance company will allow. We were on the phone daily trying to be approved for more time, ~~and~~

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The bottom line is - There is a need for more beds than we have now in San Luis Obispo County, but not as many as proposed. The proposed facility in Templeton is too large and in the wrong location. These facilities as proposed have a purpose. They are a bandaid, not a solution. We need the bandaid but not as large, and in a South County location where most of the population resides, with the needed resources. Templeton is a small, quiet community without the resources to help patients and their families get through these very difficult times.





To the County Air Pollution Control Officer:

4 December 2015

The proposed hospital in Templeton is planned and designed to have a maximum capacity of 91 patients. This is 46 beds less than the minimum suggested number of beds for San Luis Obispo County. The California Hospital Association has calculated a need for 138 acute psychiatric beds for San Luis Obispo County. So has the County's own Behavioral Health Integration Project Report.

Although we will not deny admission to this facility from other areas, our operational plan is designed to serve the residents of SLO County. It is not designed or intended for patients outside of the county.

Right now, residents seeking inpatient treatment from SLO County must travel hundreds of miles in their personal vehicles to be admitted. Their family, co-workers and friends must also make that trip. I have spoken to facilities as far south as Los Angeles and as far north as Santa Rosa who regularly admit patients from SLO County now because of the lack of services in SLO County. That means upwards of six hours on the road for each patient trip taken to far away facilities.

Behavioral health hospitals do not function like acute medical-surgical hospitals such as Twin Cities or French. Behavioral health hospitals do not have emergency rooms, ob-gyn services, radiology, etc. All of these are major traffic generators.

Patient stays at behavioral health hospitals average 5-10 days with emphasis on patient assessment, stabilization, treatment and discharge planning. Visitors are not encouraged due to the intensive care and need for stabilization. Comparing these two types of health care facilities is like comparing apples and oranges in terms of vehicle trip impact.

I cannot stress enough that the impact on traffic on the roads of California and San Luis Obispo County will be a positive one.

Sincerely,

Mark E Schneider  
CEO and Founder  
Vizion Health

PLANNING COMMISSION

AGENDA ITEM: 7

DATE: 11/11/15

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